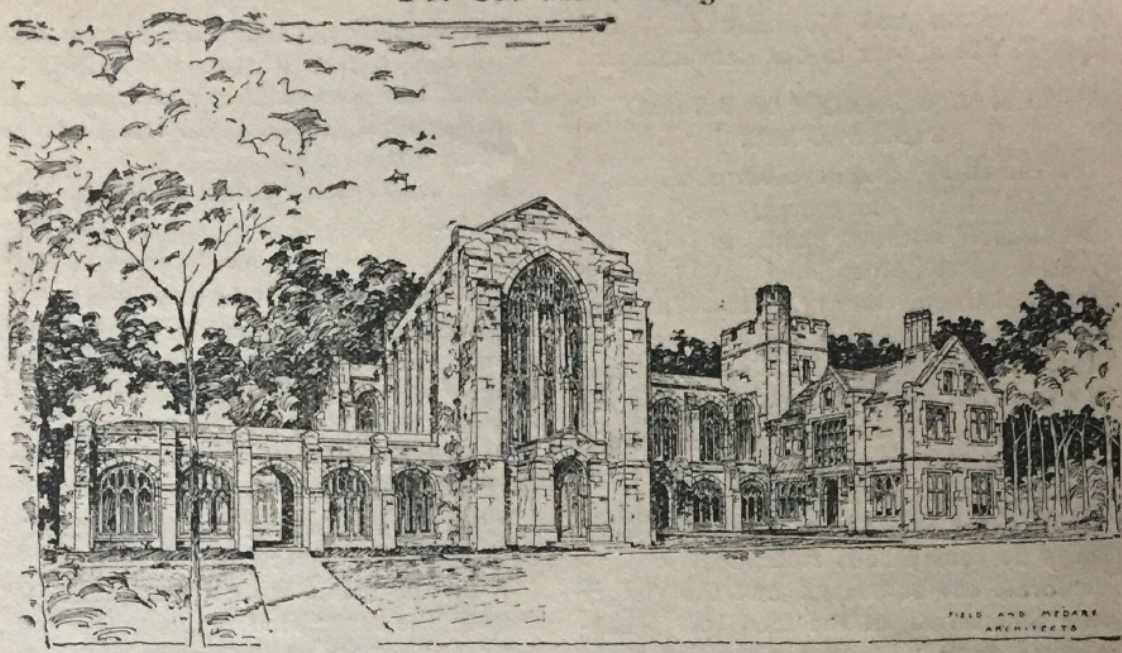
"For God and Country.



Cloister of the Colonies. Washington Memorial Chapel. Patriots' Hall. Tower and Library

"No spot on earth—not the plains of Marathon, nor the passes of Sempach, nor the place of the Bastile, nor the dykes of Holland, nor the moors of England—is so sacred in the history of the struggle for human liberty as Valley Forge."

—CYRUS TOWNSEND BRADY.

The Washington Chapel Chronicle

Valley Forge.

A RECORD OF RELIGION AND PATRIOTISM.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE WASHINGTON CHAPEL GUILD.

MISS EMMA W. CRAWFORD, Editor. MRS. ROBERT WOOD, Business Manager

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As Others See Us.

Among the ever-increasing number of appreciative visitors are many who go away to tell others of the work in which we are engaged, and some who go away to publish our plans and our accomplishment of them. Our readers will surely be interested to read what the work looks like to the visitors, and we, therefore, publish in full the article that appeared in the "Chicago Record-Herald" on Sunday, August 1. It was written by James O'Donnell Bennett, the dramatic editor. The article was illustrated by a picture of Washington and a reproduction of his signature, and a good cut of the design for the Washington Memorial Chapel.

In printing the article we desire to place on record our appreciation of the spirit in which Mr. Bennett has come to the help of this work at Valley Forge. Words like his give courage to our workers and call others to their aid.

A second article by Mr. Bennett, enti-

tled, "Musings and Memories at Valley Forge," will appear in our next number.

AT A NEW SHRINE ON AN OLD CAMPGROUND.

To the energy and devotion of an eager, rubicund little clergyman, who is all enthusiasm without cant, is due the creation of the most eloquent patriotic memorial in our country. The Washington Memorial chapel is the new crown of the deathless glories of Valley Forge, and it represents nine hard years in the life of W. Herbert Burk, rector of All Saints' Church in Norristown, Pa., and minister in charge of the memorial.

Nine years ago there was at Valley Forge no conspicuous monument to commemorate the sufferings, and the victory over themselves, of the men of Washington's army who were encamped there during the bitter winter of 1777-78, except the intensely conventional obelisk in honor of the 3,000 soldiers who perished on those heights of cold, hunger and disease during the darkest six months of the revolution.

To-day a Gothic chapel, so stately in its general scheme and so exquisite in its detail that it is worthy to rank with ecclesiastical foundations of the old world, forms the portal to the valley, and bears in upon the pilgrim the meaning, at once mournful and exultant, of a spot consecrated by much suffering and glorified by much heroism. Without a parishioner and without a cent the first steps in the foundation of this chapel were taken in 1903. The work has gone on steadily, sometimes very slowly, now with the building of a few feet of wall, now with the installation of a massive pew given in honor of a revolutionary patriot by his descendants, now with the erection by one of the thirteen original states of a bay in the Cloister of the Colonies, and now with the presentation of memorial brasses, a pulpit, a lectern or a font. And at last the ideal of the founder is becoming comprehensible to the least imaginative passer-by, and travelers from distant points enter the chapel with interest and leave it in a glow of wonder and delight at what has been done, grateful, too, and vowing to help this devoted clergyman in his labor of love.

In order to help, if ever so little, this article is written.

* * *

Rev. Herbert Burk fairly twinkled with happiness as he unfolded the designs that show what the Washington Memorial Chapel and its adjoining Cloister of the Colonies, Porch of the Allies, Patriots' Hall, Tower and Library will be when they are finished.

"This place," he said, "has been built up by prayer—and advertisement."

What the rector meant was that no step in the realization of his plan has suffered for lack of such exploitation as he could obtain. Pamphlets and leaflets about the work have found their way into every Episcopal diocese in the United States. Bishops of the church and many representative men in the official life of the nation have gone to Valley Forge to deliver addresses to mark the dedication of memorable additions to the edifice, such as a new bay in the Cloister of the Colonies or in the Porch of Allies.

Mr. Burk's noble conception has in truth taken a powerful hold on the imagination and the patriotic ardor of every one to whom it has ben made known. Already brasses and other commemorative adornments to the value of $21,610 have been placed in the chapel and other memorials that will cost $15,000 are pledged. Partly because the work goes on slowly, and partly because it is being done under the direction of a man whose taste is singularly pure and whose scholarship is sound, every detail of the structure is wrought out with pious care. Every piece of brass, every ornament in stone, every bit of carved wood not only is devised with a careful eye to the harmony of the whole, but is so lovingly and cunningly contrived as to possess a special individuality. The workmanship is, there-

fore, of a character we associate with a long vanished school of artisans who took their time over their task and put themselves into it. The heraldic devices, both ecclesiastical and national, that have been woven into the bronze and marble adornments of the chapel and cloisters represent years of study by Mr. Burk and each one spells out a chapter in the history of the church in America, of the colonies and the republic and of the great trading companies whose officers opened the Atlantic seaboard to commerce. Incidents in the religious life of Washington, from his baptism to his solemn commendation in his valedictory prayer of "the interests of our dearest country to the protection of Almighty God," are frequently and beautifully commemorated throughout the chapel.

A catalogue of other memorials, crests and architectural details of this lovely structure would be tedious. But it is not tedious to see and to ponder upon these beautiful and eloquent objects. Every stone speaks to the thoughtful pilgrim a message of devotion present and past, and he goes forth from the place inspired with a great pride and, what is better, with a great humility. These are the tributes of the living to them that were glorious and these are the authentic insignia of glory. They lift up the heart with thanksgiving and they lay profound awe upn the soul. The mission of their silence and their beauty is twofold, for in their splendor and their poignancy they renew for us the conviction that what the men of the dark and difficult time did was well done, and they teach us that by emulating those men we best can honor them.

* * * *

Much, very much, remains to be done before the Washington Memorial Chapel can lift its proposed "Thanksgiving Tower" a hundred feet above the wide fields, now fair and smiling, then windswept and deep in snow, where the army lay. Only seven of the proposed thirteen bays of the Cloister of the Colonies have been erected. Only two of the proposed bays of the Porch of the Allies—those to the accomplished Steuben and the heroic De Kalb—have been pledged, and it is not fitting that the construction of the bay in honor of that youthful darling of the revolution and of Washington's heart, Lafayette, should be long delayed. Work on the walls of the chapel proper progresses slowly and the structure is covered only by a temporary roof. The treasures of Patriots' Hall already exceed the space that has been finished off in that portion of the group of memorial buildings. Those treasures include the stately marquee—"The Pretorium of Valor," Mr. Burk calls it—in which Washington slept during his first week at Valley Forge and in which he mapped out his campaigns, consulted with his officers, wrote letters, prayed and slept, throughout the revolution.

Large payments are still to be made on the tent to Miss Mary Custis Lee, who gives all the money she receives in the way of partial payments to the support of the Confederate Woman's Home in Richmond, of which she is the president. Contributions to the tent fund, however small, will be thankfully received by Mr. Burk, who may be addressed at the Valley Forge Memorial Chapel, Valley Forge, Pa.

This matter of small contributions prompts emphasis of the fact that there is something for everybody to do in connection with the finishing of this patriotic shrine. One day last June a guest at the dedication of the Delaware bay in the Cloister of the Colonies was so impressed with the beauty and meaning of the work done thus far that he offered to provide funds for the building of the chancel of the chapel if the sum needed for the completion of the chapel wall were raised in one year, and to that sum he pledged $500. This offer to build the chancel means, in a general way, that every dollar given for the completion of the walls will bring $5 to the chapel fund. The matter of small contributions becomes, therefore, of the first importance, and I was glad to see in looking over the records of the foundation that Sunday schools and com-

municants in several Illinois parishes have made such donations Among the churches represented were St. Paul's, Alton; St. Barnabas' and Grace, Chicago; Christ Church, Moline; and the Cathedral, Quincy, as well as Trinity Church, Fort Wayne; St. David's, Indianapolis; St. John''s, Clinton, Iowa; St. Paul's, Council Bluffs; and St. Andrew's, Waverly, Iowa

It would be a fine thing, it seems to me, if some of our local patriotic societies could unite in the planning of a large meeting to be held here this winter and to be honored with the delivery by Mr. Burk of his illustrated lecture on the glorious and pathetic annals of Valley Forge. Many of the pictures that illustrate this discourse were taken by the rector. Such an assemblage might raise a goodly sum and it would furthermore be paying a tribute to a man who suffered a serious illness as a result of doing what his parishioners declared was "the work of three men," for in addition to his parochial duties at Norristown he oversees the building of the Memorial Chapel, plans the raising of funds and has charge of the Sunday schools and the religious services there.

He is a scholar, a patriot and a good man, and he has given to his countrymen a place for grand and pious meditation that is unique throughout the length and breadth of our land.

A Valley Forge Letter.

Camp, March 15th, 1778.

My dearest Wife:

I know you cannot object to another letter from your fond, too fond Husband altho' he troubled you with a scrawl but last night. My beloved family lay near my heart and therefore must often employ my Pen tho' I have so little to say. Writing to distant friends seems to draw them to you or carries you to them. I often repeat my wishes to fly to my former requiem in the possesion of my long lost devotion Peace and tranquility, which this cruel, unnatural War has so deeply wounded in an essential Partt. I still live in hopes and please myself with the Idea of a more thorough & substantial enoyment arising from a knowledge of its inestimable value than even we have yet experienced. This must be under the superintending Influence of our kind & gracious God whose will in all things I humbly hope & pray may be our will. I am tired with the labours of the day. Tho' the Sabbath, I have been writing almost all day. Alas! a state of War is not calculated for either world. I really feel why & how a state of Happiness should be a state of Peace. The angels at the Incarnation of our Saviour seem to have been grieved with the Wars among mankind when they sang Glory to God in the highest; Peace, Good Will to Man on Earth. I am more & more surprised how any man living can delight in War & especially think of making a trade of it.

Genl Washington and the general officers remonstrate ag't my giving up my office, yet all want me to go to Congress while they confess I cannot do both. I wish to see my dearest Friend on the subject. My kindest love to Susan, my niece, Sister & family not forgetting my neighbors. Ever my dear Wife with ardent & increasing love.

Your Afft Husband

Boudinot.

I am obliged to send my horses 17 miles out of Camp with Wm. in order to keep them from starving & I am four miles from headquarters without a servant.

From the Life, Services, Addresses and Letters of Elias Boudinot by J. J. Boudinot.

Washington Memorial Chapel,
Valley Forge, Pa.

THE REV. W. HERBERT BURK, B. D.
RECTOR

Residence, The Defenders' Gate, Valley Forge.
Port Kennedy, Telephone, 34.

Mr. Charles Wells Walker,
Vestry's Warden,
Devon, Pa.

Mr. Frank Quigg,
Rector's Warden,
Port Kennedy, Pa.

Mr. Charles Wells Walker, Treasurer,
Devon, Pa.

Mr. S. Col. Summerill, Secretary,
Port Kennedy, Pa.

Mr. Leslie Jefferis,
Treasurer of the Building Fund,
Bridgeport, Pa.

Mr. Clayland Stephens Walker,
Treasurer of the Cemetery,
Centreville, Pa.

VESTRYMEN.

Mr. Edward H. Binns, Mr. Thomas H Dobson, Gen. B. F. Fisher, Mr. Nathan B. Hughes, Mr. Leslie Jefferis, Mr. Frank Quigg, Mr. S. Col. Summerill, Mr. Clayland Stephens Walker, Mr. Charles Wells Walker.

Miss Mary M. Hibbs, Chorister.

Chapel Telephones—3514 and 18L,
Port Kennedy.

Sundays.

10.45 A. M. Service and Sermon.
2.30 P. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.
3.45 P. M. Service and Sermon.
Holy Communion, First Sunday.

The Parish House, King-of-Prussia:
9 A. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.
7.30 P. M. Service and Sermon.
Saints' Days, 9.30 A. M. Holy Communion.

Calendar.

SEPTEMBER.

15. Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.
18. Ember Day.
20. Ember Day.
21. St. Matthew.
    9.30 a. m. Holy Communion.
    8 p. m. Conference of Bishop Rhinelander with the Vestry.
22. Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity.
    10.45 a. m. Confirmation, Sermon and Holy Communion.
29. St. Michael and All Angels.
    Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.

OCTOBER.

2. 2.30 p. m. Washington Chapel Guild.
6. Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.
7. 8 p. m. Meeting of the Vestry.
13. Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.

Bishop Rhinelander, who will make his first visitation to this parish on Sunday the twenty-second, has arranged to meet the Vestry on Saturday evening, the twenty-first, to confer with its members in regard to the affairs of the parish and the work which lies before it. The conference will be held at the Defenders' Gate at eight o'clock, and all the members of the Vestry are asked to be present.

At this time it cannot be stated how many will be confirmed. The Rector has endeavored to bring the duty of self-dedication through confirmation home to several in the parish, but the season of the year with its many calls is a hindrance to the preparation of a class. Your prayers are asked for God's special favor at this time, that the inspiration may come from Him.

The Rector's vacation this year consisted of a leave of absense for two weeks in July. The Rev. Stanley R. West, of St. Matthew's Church, Philadelphia, officiated on the first Sunday and on the following Sunday the Rev. Francis M. Wetherill, of the Diocese of Bethlehem, had charge of the work. Their visit to the parish was appreciated by the congregation, and it is hoped that this will not be the last time that they are heard at Valley Forge. The Rector had asked

for a leave of absence in order to lecture in the conference for church work, at Cambridge, Massachusetts. He gave eighteen lectures, his subjects being "Japan Advancing—Whither?" and "Child Study." The classes were large, but the intense heat made the work difficult. The lectures on Japan were given for the Board of Missions preparatory to the work of the Mission Study classes during the winter of 1912-1913. An excellent textbook has been prepared for the use of the classes, and, judging from the results at Cambridge, the studies ought to develop a real enthusiasm for Missions. In addition to the regular work of the program Mr. Burk made an impromptu address on the first Saturday evening. As Independence Day had just passed he spoke on "Patriotism." On the Sundays he preached in Cambridge and Wood's Holl, and also officiated and made an adress at the Chapel service in Andover Seminary, where the services of the Cambridge Summer School were held.

Report of the Secretary of the Guild.

A slight resume of the leading events of the Guild year will constitute the secretary's annual report. Two rummage sales, three musicales—October and June at Mrs. C. Colket Wilson's; June at Mrs. Wm. C. Wilson's—added to the treasury fund. The Chapel organist; Miss Mary Stephens, on her resignation was presented with a purse of $25 from the Guild. The monthly allowance for current expenses was increased from ten to fifteen dollars monthly. The Guild purchased fire-extinguishers and assisted in moving Mr. Burk from Port Kennedy to the Defender's Gate. During Lent special meetings of the Working Chapter were held and several orders taken. The Guild also contributed toward Mr. Burk's transportation to the mission service. The expense of the electric conduit at Defender's Gate was borne by the Guild. As usual the work of the tea room has been carried on by volunteers from the Guild members, how successfully the treasurer's report shows. A very interesting missionary tea was held at Mrs. Chas. Wells Walker's at which Mrs. Geo. C. Thomas was the speaker. Miss Helen Wilson was appointed Parish Treasurer for the United Offering fund and the Chapel entered on the books as contributor to the fund. New matting and linoleum were purchased by the Guild and Sunday School for the Parish building. The coal fund has gradually been growing. Several luncheons were served by the Guild in the course of the year increasing the amount in the treasury. As we start on the new year we can profit by the mistakes of the past and increase in efficiency for the future.

Emma W. Crawford, Sec'y.

Annual Meeting of the Guild.

The annual meeting of the Guild was held in the Parish House on September 4, 1912. The meeting was opened with prayer by the president. Roll call showed an attendance of ten members. The usual order of business followed, secretary's minutes and annual report and treasurer's reports. The Working Chapter and Missionary Chapter followed with their annual reports. Mr. Burk reported the work done by the King-of-Prussia mission which was most encouraging. The coal, music and Chronicle committees reported favorably.

It was resolved that the constitution be amended by the omission of words: "Missionary Chapter," further resolved that the constitution be amended by the omission of words, "Chancel Chapter." Final action will be taken on these resolutions at the next meeting.

It was resolved that the discussion of the fall entertainment be postponed until a special meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 10th.

Miss Gibson's resignation was accepted with very great regret.

During the elections for the ensuing year Miss Mary Hibbs presided.

The following officers were elected:

President, Mrs. Chas. W. Walker.

Vice President, Miss Mary Hibbs.
Secretary, Miss Emma W. Crawford.
Treasurer, Mrs. Nathan Hughes.

Under new business, the secretary was directed to write a note of thanks to Mrs. Wm. Stephens, Port Kennedy, for a porcelain tea kettle for the tea room.

The meeting adjourned to meet Wednesday, October 2nd.

New Jersey at Valley Forge.

What can be done by one person really interested has been again demonstrated by the movement to erect at Valley Forge a monument to the men of New Jersey, as a tribute from the State. The story is told in the following letter issued by Camden Lodge, No. 293, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, of Camden, N. J.:

Dear Sirs and Bros.:

At a meeting of Camden Lodge of Elks held on Wednesday evening, December 6, 1911, Bro. John Henry Fort, who spoke at the memorial service of Norristown Lodge of Elks, gave a glowing description of a visit to Valley Forge near Norristown, Montgomery and Chester counties, Pennsylvania.

Bro. Fort described in detail the present condition of the old Revolutionary encampment and stated that the state of Pennsylvania had purchased the old historic site and under a commission was having it restored to its original condition; which was rendered feasible by reason of a map recently discovered in a museum, in Holland, by a French engineer for Gen. Washington, that showed every detail of defence, location of troops and General Washington's headquarters, as well as those of the other generals. The camping grounds have been beautified by fine roads and paths and the redoubts, forts and earthworks uncovered and even fac simile huts erected to cover every detail and cannon of the revolutionary type placed en park, as designated on the old map now in possession of Cornell University.

Maine, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and other states of the original thirteen colonies, who had troops there, have erected or are about to erect, granite markers to commemorate the location. Pennsylvania has erected at great cost a granite equestrian statue of Maj. Gen. Anthony Wayne and magnificent granite columns surmounted with bronze eagles. The Valley Forge Park as restored is one of great beauty and with the beautiful Schuylkill and Valley Forge creek flowing around the sloping hillsides of Valley Forge makes it one of picturesqueness and loveliness. Hill after hill rises and falls in the distance and here were quartered in 1777 and 1778 the 8000 young soldiers of noble sires from the thirteen old colonies who battled for freedom. Thirty-five hundred of them died here and are buried in the Valley Forge Park with unmarked graves. And yet with all these discouragements Washington here recruited and drilled his army by aid of Baron Von Steuben to a high efficiency and to a strength of 14,000 invincible men.

There were a number of troops there from New Jersey and some buried in those unmarked graves. It was from here Washington marched to Trenton and vanquished the Hessians; marking the roads and snow-covered fields with the blood from the feet of his shoeless soldiers. As the site occupied by the troops from New Jersey, then one of the colonies, has never been marked, Bro. Fort moved that a committee of three from Camden Lodge of Elks be appointed to solicit by letter, the aid of every Elks' Lodge in New Jersey; requesting the Senator and Representatives from the county in which the lodge is situated to vote for the enactment of a law providing for the appointment of a commission by the legislature to obtain all data necessary to locate the site and obtain permission to erect a granite marker and suitable stones to commemorate the memory of the officers and men who heroically represented New Jersey in the great sufferings and heroic acts performed by them at Valley Forge. The

idea is also to have the act carry with it an appropriation of not less than $5000 to cover the expense of the marker and other small granite posts needed to fix the boundary.

As Valley Forge is the Mecca of American independence, hallowed in the memory specially of those residing in the thirteen original states, may we ask cooperation in this work and have your secretary, under the seal of the lodge, write your Senator and Representative, urging their support of this project?

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks is patriotic as well as benevolent. As Jerseymen let us honor the memory of those who gave us our flag and nation by erecting a shaft on the site where they made such noble sacrifices.

Fraternally yours,

John Henry Fort,
Richard T. Outwater,
Alexander J. Milliette,
Committee.

The bill, which was introduced by Mr. De Unger, and referred to the Committee on Claims and Revolutionary Pensions, is as follows:

An act creating the Valley Forge Revolutionary Encampment Commission and defining its powers and duties.

Be it enacted by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. The Governor of this state is hereby authorized to appoint five persons, residents of this state, who shall constitute, and are hereby appointed, a board of commissioners by the name and style of the "Valley Forge Revolutionary Encampment Commission." The term of such commissioners shall be for five years, and no member of such commission shall receive any compensation for his services, and in case of death or vacancy, the Governor shall have the authority to fill such vacancy. Three of such commissioners shall constitute a quorum at any stated or specially called meeting.

2. This commission shall elect a president, secretary and treasurer from their number, and said commissioners shall have power and authority to arrange with the state of Pennsylvania for the use and occupation of the lands by the New Jersey troops at Valley Forge encampment, West Chester and Montgomery counties, during the years of one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven and one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight, and have the same suitably marked with granite posts and a granite shaft, bearing the inscription of the names of the troops, and the commanding officer or officers, and such other inscription as shall be suitable to commemorate the memory of the New Jersey troops, quartered there during the Revolutionary War.

3. The said commission is hereby authorized to expend the sum of five thousand dollars for the erection of a granite shaft and markers.

And the said commission is hereby authorized to enter into negotiations with the state of Pennsylvania, or the Valley Forge Encampment Park Commissioners, for the erection of said markers and granite shaft, and to advertise for proposals for marking the site occupied by the New Jersey troops during the years one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven and one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight, and for all such other matters that are incident thereto, not exceeding the appropriation herein made for the same.

4. This act shall take effect immediately.

Following the annual Guild meeting, Miss Helen Wilson, Parish Treasurer for United Offering fund, called a meeting of those interested, and explained to them the work done. The boxes were opened with a gratifying result. During the meeting tea was served. Miss Wilson desires that all women of the Parish be contributors to the fund, in however small a way. A united offering must include everyone.